

BADGER STATE

SMOKE SIGNALS

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FEBRUARY 2005

2005 Wisconsin QSO Party

The 2005 **Wisconsin QSO Party** is scheduled to begin at 12 noon CST (1800Z) SUNDAY March 13, and run until 7 PM Sunday (0100Z March 14). This annual 7 hour event is sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club (WARAC). Further information, including entry forms, rules, the multiplier list, and our Cabrillo format for electronic log submissions, are available on our website www.warac.org under QSO Party. Entries will need to be received no later than April 14, 2005. Paper entries should be sent to: WIQP, P.O. Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Electronic entries, using our Cabrillo format, should be sent to: k9kr@arrl.net. PLEASE clearly label any electronic entries so they do not become part of the large amount of spam we receive. We suggest you label your entry with your CALLSIGN and the extension LOG, such as - K9KR.LOG. If you need any kind of assistance, or have any questions, please send them to me. I will do my best to find an answer.

We have nine entry categories, two of which reflect the technician license and one that reflects the novice license. We know the novice license is no longer issued, even though there are still novice license holders. As we all know, the FCC is close to changing the license names, privileges, etc. We know the FCC will be issuing an order that will affect WIQP sooner or later. When that occurs, we will need to address our entry classes. If the FCC does issue their order with an effective date prior to our 2005 WIQP, we will post further information on our website www.warac.org about what to do.

We also want to mention that we have listed several logging programs (or modules for WIQP as part of general logging programs) on our website. If you are looking for an easy to use WIQP only program, and have no other program to use, we suggest the N3FJP program. Scott, N3FJP, has just completed his latest revision, which is still available for only \$6. We believe upgrades are still free.

The next thing that I have is the list of standing **RECORDS**, which I have listed below. While some of these records reflect no longer used entry categories, the rest of them are current as of 2004 WIQP:

Single Op Fixed - set by WE9V in 2002 with 148,563 points

Single Op Mobile - set by K5OT in 2003 with 170,146 points
Single Op Novice - set by WD9EGC in 1991 with 15,238 points
Single Op Tech - set by N9SGG in 2001 with 14,873.5 points
Multi Op Fixed - set by W9EAU in 2003 with 134,160 points
Multi Op Mobile - set by W9HB in 2003 with 161,540 points
Multi Op Tech - set by N9PJQ in 2004 with 945 points
Multi Multi Fixed - set by W0AIH in 2002 with 348,615 points
Multi Multi Mobile - set by N9EZ in 2001 with 182,360 points
Multi Multi Tech - set by N9PAY in 1993 with 330 points
Multi Multi Novice - set by KA9QFJ in 1998 with 5,103 points
Out of State entry - set by K9NW in 2003 with 47,533.5 points
Club entry - by Fond du Lac ARC in 2003 with 714,889.5 points

This is a QSO party for ALL stations, not just contesters. It is an opportunity to work some of the "rare" Wisconsin Counties, due mainly to the many mobile stations that take to the highways, attempting to operate from as many counties as they can during the 7 hours of time the contest runs. These mobiles help both in-state and out-of-state stations, by activating counties not normally on during the contest or during the rest of the year. Casual operators are most welcome too. Be sure to get on CW, so the out-of-state stations have a better opportunity to work Wisconsin. We encourage all stations to try and break one of our standing records, or become part of a club to help them break that record. Without all entries, large or small, there would be no "party." It is fun. TRY IT. See you on the **13th of March at noon CST**.

For WI QSO Party and West Allis RAC
Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR, Chairman WIQP

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Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bs3s.org](http://www.bs3s.org)



WHAT’S HAPPENING

Swapfests and Other Social Events — Club Meetings Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901 — kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net

Swapfests And Other Social Events

March 19, 2005 Buffalo, MN
Midwinter Madness Hobby Electronics Show, Buffalo Civic Center, Buffalo MN. For more information <http://www.k0ltc.org> or e-mail k0ltc@k0ltc.org. RARC, PO Box 22613, Robbinsdale MN 55422.

March 20, 2005, Jefferson, WI
Tri-County Amateur Radio Club, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Activity Center, Hwy 18 West, Jefferson, WI. For information contact: TCARC, 213 Frederick St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538, www.cmdline.con/tcarc/, jsatt@ticon.net or (920) 563-6381 (evenings), (200 563-9551 (fax). <http://www.cmdline.com/tcarc> Also see the ad elsewhere in this issue of BSSS

AES Superfest 2005
April 1st. (2:00 to 7:00 p.m., April 2nd (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)
25-35 manufacturers; 15 Clubs and Organizations; 7 Informational Forums; The Gordo Show, V.E. Testing, Fox Hunt (with prizes). Free Admission, Free Popcorn & Soda, and food for purchase by the Boy Scouts. Specials, Coupons, Door Prizes.
Continuously updated Superfest progress at: aesham.com/superfest

April 16, 2005, The NS9RC (formerly known

as LAMARSfest) Hamfest, Lake County Fairgrounds, Grayslake, IL. For more information contact: 847-291-6865 or www.ns9rc.org

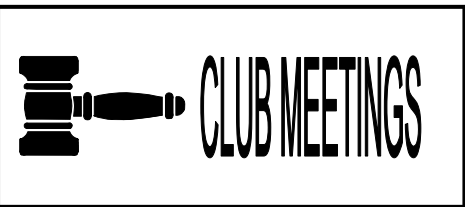
April 17, 2005, Madison Area Repeater Association Swapfest, Stoughton, WI. Mandt Community Center 400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI. Inquiries can be directed to: w9hsy@execpc.com or write to MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890, Tele:608.245.8890 For more information see the MARA website www.qsl.net/mara. Also see the ad elsewhere in this issue of BSSS

May 07, 2005, Cedarburg, WI. 26th Annual Amateur Radio and Computer Swapfest, Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC). Circle B Recreation Center, intersection of State Highway 60 and Ozaukee County Highway I. Info: Gene Szudrowitz, (262) 377-6792 between 6:00 and 8:00 pm or <http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/>

July 9, 2005, South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest, American Legion Post 434, 9327 South Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. e-mail ry-atex@aol.com. Phone (414) 762-3235.

August 15, 2005 Circus City Swapfest, Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI. Steve Schultze, W9UDO, (608) 356-2313 or Bill Klinkner, N9KXX, (608) 643-6908/643-6453 <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm>

September 16-17-18, 2005. Peoria Superfest, Exposition Gardens Fairgrounds, 1601 W Northmoor Rd, off N. University, Peoria, IL. Contact: Peoria Superfest, PO Box 3508 Peoria, IL 61612-3508. (309) 692-2378. e-mail: w9uvi@arrl.net. <http://www.peoriasuperfest.com>.



The following is a listing of clubs that have reported their club meeting times to BSSS. We carry this listing so that you can find clubs in your area, or if you are visiting another area, you can visit another club. We try to carry the listing in alternate issues, so please save this listing for your use. If you would like to have your club listed, please send the information to K9EN at the address on page 2. If you find that a listing is incomplete or incorrect please let us know.

Appleton
FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Mondays, 7 p.m., Columbus Club, 2531 N. Richmond Street, Appleton, WI Information: Pat, K9IK, 920.725.1149. PLatour428@aol.com Web: <http://www.w9zl.ampr.org/>

Baraboo
BADGERLAND AMATEUR TELEVISION SOCIETY (BATS) Check BATS Web page: <http://www.shopstop.net/BATS/>

Baraboo
YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: See the YTARC column elsewhere in this issue for meeting times and locations. For further information: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc>.

Dubuque, IA
GREAT RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Monday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Red Cross Center, 2400 Asbury Road. The club serves the tri-state area. On the Web: <http://www.qsl.net/wb0lob/>. Information or questions to: N0hdc@aol.com.

Eau Claire
EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: 2nd Tuesday - 7 p.m., Eau Claire Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests welcome. W9EAU repeater 146.91 MHz, tone 110.9 Hz. Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA, President, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867. Phone (715) 838-9108, Email kg9ra@ecarc.org. Web page: <http://www.ecarc.org>

Fond du Lac
FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Monday at Moraine Park Technical College, Fond du Lac, WI. Time: 7 p.m. Sunday net: 7:30 p.m. CDT, K9IA repeater, 145.430 - PL 107.2 Information: Jack Heil, KG9IN, 920.922.1413. Email: kg9in@fdlhams.org Web: <http://www.fdlhams.org>.

Fort Atkinson
TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB second Thursday monthly except June to August, 7 p.m., at Dwight Foster Public Library in Fort Atkinson. ARES Net each Wednesday evening at 8 and club net Monday evenings at 8 on 145.49 repeater. Contact: Glenn Eisenbrandt, WA9VYL, 920.563.6502, or John Satterlee, WA9SAB, 920.563.6381.

Grafton
Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC) Second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Grafton Multipurpose Senior Center, 1665 7th. Ave., Grafton, Wisconsin www.qsl.net/orc/.

Green Bay
GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Media Services area of J. M. Science Building at St. Norbert College in DePere. Information: Kevin at kb9sne@yahoo.com.

Green Lake
GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Greater Green Lake County area. Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Green Lake Town Hall, intersection of County Highways K and N.

Hudson
St. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS Meetings: Third Tuesdays, St. Croix County Emergency Government Center, Carmichael Road, Hudson. Short business meeting at 7:30 p.m. followed by program. Talkin: 145.13 MHz. All are welcome!

Juneau
ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI. ARES Nets: 146.64 (-600) Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Saturdays, 7277 KHz, 10:30 a.m.

(Continued on page 3)

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

Subscription Rate

1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly)\$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month before the issue date. For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to n9qa@arrl.net (Dave Knaus, N9QA).

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the

events date.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

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Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

(Continued from page 2)

Madison
SPACE PLACE AMATEUR RADIO CENTER No meetings. Located on U.W.-Madison campus. Guest operators are welcome to operate the U.W. Space Place Amateur Radio Station, N9UW. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, President, (608) 263-4685. Email: n9uw@sal.wisc.edu.

Madison
BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY University of Wisconsin - Madison/W9YT Meetings: Third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in UW Union South. Room number posted on the Today in The Union board. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, (608) 263-4685. Email: w9ixg@arrl.org. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/w9yt>.

Madison
Madison DX Club, meetings are on every fourth Tuesday of each month; see <http://madisondxclub> for more details.

Madison
FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Red Cross Building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Room C, downstairs. First building west of Hill Farms State Office Building.

Manitowoc
MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS (ManCoRad) Second Wednesday of each month. Club board meets at 6:30 p.m., and Regular meeting is at 7:30 p.m., at 1105 Fleetwood Drive, 2nd floor (Old County Shop building on northwest side of city.) For Additional information please see our club web-site www.qsl.net/w9dk or contact Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, (920) 682-9312. Email: w6bsf@arrl.net.

Marinette WI
Menominee MI
Amateur Radio Club Meetings held second Thursday 7:00PM each month BAMC Tenth Avenue Menominee Michigan in the basement. Guests welcome e-mail secretary kg9ad@arrl.net

Medford
Black River Amateur Radio Association Meetings: Normally the first Thursday of each month. Usual meeting time is 7 PM. Most meetings are held at the Taylor County Courthouse. Directions: Those attending should park in the main courthouse parking lot on the east side of the building, and enter using the main courthouse entrance or the sheriff's dept. entrance. Proceed to the lower level of the courthouse using the stairs or elevator. We meet in the "break room" on the lower level, near the Emergency Government office. Talk-in on the 147.15 repeater (114.8 Hz PL, +600 kHz offset) and 146.52 MHz simplex. Contact: Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI 54405. Phone: (715) 223-3996.

Menomonee Falls
FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Meetings: Last Wednesdays at Bank One building in Germantown. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting time: 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome!

Menomonie WI
Saturday coffee at Burger King, 544 Main Street, at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the Depot, 2616 Hills Court, north of Walmart on highway 25 North, in January, March, April, and September through November. Guests welcome!

Milwaukee
GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIATION Meetings: Fourth Monday of month, 7:30 p.m. Contact any GMDXA member, or Gary Schwartz, K9GS, (262) 363-4439. Email: garyk9gs@arrl.net.

Milwaukee
MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB Meetings: Last Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI. Mailing address: P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI

53207. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/mrac> . Email: w9rh@arrl.net.

Monomonie
RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC. Saturday coffee at Hardee's in North Monomonie, corner of Highways 12 and 25 at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Peppermill Too, 1414 9th Street in the L-Mart Shopping Center in January, March, April, and September through November. Guests welcome!

Northeast Area
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSOCIATION Meetings quarterly: April 28, Marinette; August 25, Fox Valley; November 10, Green Bay. For specific information about meetings, check <http://home.new.rr.com/newdxa/>. Contact us at w9dxa@arrl.net.

Oak Creek
SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Wednesdays, Legion Post #434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. In March and October the meetings are turned into Auction Nights.. The club WEB site is www.qsl.net/wa9txe

Onalaska
RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Onalaska Community Center. More information: <http://www.qsl.net/wr9arc/> . Email: wr9arc@qsl.net.

QCWA Chapter 162
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA) Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162. Meetings: Third Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and November, 7:30 p.m., usually at Meadows Restaurant, Franksville, WI. Social events: Third Sundays in February, April, June, August, and October. Christmas party: Usually second or third Sunday in December.

QCWA Chapter 55
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA) Wisconsin Chapter 55 meets the first Saturday of June and October. For information about Chapter 55, contact Ron Yokes, W9BCK, Secretary, 612 N. Pt Washington Road, Grafton, WI 53024-9703. (262) 375-1774. mailto:rryokes@execpc.com.

Racine
LAKESHORE REPEATER ASSOCIATION Meetings: Last Tuesday, January, April, July, October. American Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Racine
RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB Meetings: Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m., American Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Rhineland
NORTHWOODS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Tuesday of Sept., Nov., Dec., Feb., and April for dinner business meetings at Ella's Restaurant, Jct. of Hwy. 51 and 70, north side of Woodruff, WI. Talkin on Sayner or Tomahawk repeaters. The Northwoods ARC News is on the club web site, <http://www.freeyellow.com/members7/nwarc>.

Sheboygan
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Tuesdays. 7 p.m., Sheboygan County Red Cross/Boy Scout Building, 2032 Erie Avenue.

Shell Lake
Northland ARC meetings are held the first Saturday of each month after breakfast. Location: Schmitz's Economart Deli. Located on US Hwy.63 on the south end of Spooner. The meeting will start at approx. 8:00 AM. Breakfast usually starts by 7:30 AM. Come and see what we're about. Anyone, even if you're licensed or not and has an interest in ham radio is welcome to

attend! Next Meeting: Sept 4th, 2004 at 8:00 AM. So Please plan to attend!!!! <http://home.centurytel.net/NorthlandARC/>.

Stevens Point
CWRA Ltd./UWSP ARC Meetings second Wednesday, of each month at 7:30 pm. Science Building on the UW-Stevens Point Campus, Room A107, Stevens Point, WI. Email: jglas776@uwsp.edu. Webpage: www.qsl.net/wb9qfw.

Superior
ARROWHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Meetings: Second Tuesday at WITC Conference Center, 600 N. 21st St., Superior, WI. Time: 7:30 p.m. Board meetings held before regular meetings.

W.A.R. WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS
Quarterly meetings of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters are held at various locations around the State on the second Saturdays of March, June, September and December. Check the WAR web page for meeting announcements and repeater coordination info. Information: <http://www.wi-repeaters.org>.

Watertown
WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Thursdays of month, 7 p.m., Watertown Public Library, 100 South Water Street.

Waupaca
WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CQ First Tue. Social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon, King's Table, King, WI, on Highway QQ, just south of Highways 10 and 54, west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11 to 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted. CQ Third Fri. Social gathering and Dutch treat dinner. Semi-formal, OM and XYL, at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check: Waupaca 147.39 nets at 8 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for month's meeting location.

Wausau
WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Location varies. Information: 146.64 (-600). <http://home.dwave.net/~wvra/>.

West Allis
West Allis Radio Amateur Club Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 80th and Lincoln Ave., West Allis. Meetings in basement. Entrance at rear, off alley. Handicapped accessible. www.warac.org.

West Bend
WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Courthouse. Net: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., 146.73 (-600).

Wisconsin Rapids
WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Room 14 of Wood County Courthouse. Talkin: 146.79 (-600) for entry into the building.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

February 05, 2005 Appleton, WI

February 05, 2005 Racine, WI
February 05, 2005 St. Paul, MN
February 10, 2005 Apple Valley, MN
February 12, 2005 Blaine, MN
February 12, 2005 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
February 15, 2005 Eden Prairie, MN
February 19, 2005 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
February 19, 2005 Loves Park, IL
February 19, 2005 Cottage Grove, MN
February 26, 2005 Bloomington, MN
February 26, 2005 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
February 26, 2005 Tomahawk, WI
March 05, 2005 Racine, WI
March 05, 2005 St. Paul, MN
March 10, 2005 Apple Valley, MN
March 12, 2005 Blaine, MN
March 12, 2005 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 15, 2005 Sheboygan, WI
March 15, 2005 Eden Prairie, MN
March 19, 2005 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 19, 2005 Loves Park, IL
March 19, 2005 Cottage Grove, MN
March 26, 2005 Bloomington, MN
March 26, 2005 Tomahawk, WI
April 02, 2005 Racine, WI
April 02, 2005 St. Paul, MN
April 09, 2005 Blaine, MN
April 09, 2005 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 14, 2005 Apple Valley, MN
April 16, 2005 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
April 16, 2005 Loves Park, IL
April 16, 2005 Cottage Grove, MN
April 19, 2005 Eden Prairie, MN
April 23, 2005 Bloomington, MN
April 30, 2005 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
April 30, 2005 Tomahawk, WI
May 07, 2005 Racine, WI
May 07, 2005 St. Paul, MN
May 14, 2005 Apple Valley, MN
May 14, 2005 Blaine, MN
May 14, 2005 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May 17, 2005 Eden Prairie, MN
May 21, 2005 Loves Park, IL
May 21, 2005 Cottage Grove, MN
May 28, 2005 Bloomington, MN
May 28, 2005 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 28, 2005 Tomahawk, WI
June 04, 2005 Racine, WI
June 04, 2005 St. Paul, MN
June 09, 2005 Apple Valley, MN
June 11, 2005 Blaine, MN
June 11, 2005 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
June 18, 2005 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
June 18, 2005 Cottage Grove, MN
June 18, 2005 Eden Prairie, MN
June 21, 2005 Bloomington, MN
June 25, 2005 Tomahawk, WI
June 25, 2005 Racine, WI

(except Jan., Jul., & Aug.)
Monthly, 1st Sat. St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu. Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat. Blaine, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat. Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Tue. Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Sat. Milwaukee, WI (BE)
(September through April)
Monthly, 3rd Sat. Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat. Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, 4th Sat. Bloomington, MN
Monthly, Last Sat. Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)
Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS: Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

(Continued on page 7)

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	LOCAL	Manager
BWN	YES	3985	1200	0600	W9IXG
BEN	YES	3985	1800	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	YES	3985	2315	1715	K9FHI
WNN	YES	3723	0000	1800	KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3645	0030	1830	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	YES	3662	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3662	0400	2200	W9UW
RCRA	NO	01/61	0130	1930	KA9OMC
(Mondays CDT— Menomonie Area)					
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12	0345	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25	0300	2100	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					
ARES/RACES (WRACES)	NO	3996	0000	1800	KB9ENO

STM REPORT, WISCONSIN NOVEMBER 2004

FAQ #35 – How can we improve the image of traffic handling in our section? Thank you for that insightful question. Yes, traffic handling is being done quite well in Wisconsin, but there’s definitely room for improvement. We want all operators, agencies, and the public to know what we do. I would propose a four-point plan.

- (1) Get involved. Check into some section nets (listed on the Wisconsin page of the ARRL website). Listen carefully to the net protocol and copy along with the net control or with a station receiving traffic.
- (2) Send and receive some formal traffic. Using Operating aid FSD-218 (the famous pink card), prepare and send some traffic. Need a card? Ask me or download it from <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/forms/fsd218.html> . Offer to receive and deliver some traffic on a net. The best way to get comfort-

able with the process is to do it.
(3) Offer your services as a net control or as a liaison station taking traffic to subsequent nets. You could, for example, take traffic from the Badger Emergency Net to the Wisconsin Side Band Net or from Late WIN to the Badger Weather Net or the BEN. You could go to or from the Ninth Region Net.
(4) Finally, tell someone. Spread the word about what we do in handling traffic as part of the National Traffic System. Explain how the skills of handling messages transfer to ARES operations, dx-ing, contesting, and everyday operation. Mention traffic handling to licensing classes as a typical part of the public service we provide. Tell your friends and offer to send free radiograms anywhere in the U.S. and Canada.

I’m your Section Traffic Manager, K9LGU, and I’ve approved this message. 73.

STM REPORT, WISCONSIN DECEMBER 2004

FAQ #36 – What does a net manager do? As the name suggests, a section traffic net manager manages to manage the net by appointing net control stations, collecting statistics to check on the operation of the net, representing the net with the Wisconsin Nets Association, Ltd., and appointing representatives to the WNA from the net. The NM is an appointment of an ARRL member by the Section Manager on the recommendation of the Section Traffic Manager who is forever indebted to those who volunteer to serve as a net manager. For details about this special ap-

pointment, you might want to consult any of the current NMs -- W9IXG, KE9VU, K9FHI, KB9ROB, WA9ZTY, WB9ICH, W9UW, or N9VAO. You can also read about it at www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/nm.html.

As a result of the efforts of the NMs and net members, 2004 saw an increase of 1073 (3%) checkins and an increase of 2369 (10%) pieces of traffic over 2003. Many thanks to our NMs who have served Ham Radio in Wisconsin over the past year, and to all who support their efforts and our nets. You remind us why we do what we do. 73 -- K9LGU/STM-WI

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY, NOVEMBER 2004

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1453	1828	2842	30	W9IXG
BEN	424	45	616	27	KE9VU
WSBN	680	99	951	30	K9FHI
WNN	155	15	306	26	KB9ROB
WSSN	126	18	200	17	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	186	39	291	27	WB9ICH
WIN/L	148	58	317	28	W9UW
WRACES					
	275	0	473	9	KB9ENO
totals	3447	2102	5996	194	
MIDWEST CLASSIC RADIO NET - 152 48 534 4					

MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY DECEMBER 2004

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1605	2030	3232	31	W9IXG
BEN	405	45	808	27	KE9VU
WSBN	824	124	1157	31	K9FHI
WNN	160	13	283	22	KB9ROB
WSSN	193	20	281	26	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	202	40	305	29	WB9ICH
WIN/L	151	44	283	28	W9UW
WRACES	110	0	174	4	KB9ENO
totals	3650	2316	6523	198	
MWCRN QNI: 174 INFO 65/65 QTR: 507 4 SSNS AM ONLY					

2004 NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY

NET	QNI	QTC	NM
BWN	18040	22075	W9IXG
BEN	5918	791	KE9VU
WSBN	8994	1159	K9FHI
WNN	1961	189	KB9ROB
WSSN	2198	289	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	2545	758	WB9ICH
WIN/L	2421	698	W9UW
WRACES	1006	7	N6NKO/KB9ENO
totals	43083	25966	

P S H R SUMMARY NOVEMBER 2004

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
K9JPS	35	40	10	140	0	0	225
AG9G	40	40	20	70	0	0	170
WA9ZTY	30	40	30	40	0	0	140
K9FHI	40	40	30	10	5	10	135
K9LGU	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
KG9B	30	40	20	30	0	0	120
W9BHL	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
W9RCW	35	32	30	0	0	0	97
WD9FLJ	40	34	10	0	0	10	94
KA9RZL	31	10	30	0	5	0	76
W9RSX	40	21	10	0	0	0	71

P S H R SUMMARY DECEMBER 2004

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
KB9KEG	40	35	20	155	0	10	260
K9JPS	34	40	10	120	0	0	204
KG9B	30	38	20	85	0	0	173
WA9ZTY	40	40	30	50	10	0	170
W9BHL	35	37	30	30	0	0	132
AG9G	40	40	20	30	0	0	130
K9LGU	40	40	30	20	0	0	130
K9FHI	40	40	30	15	0	0	125
WD9FLJ	40	40	10	0	0	10	100
N9TVT	38	38	10	0	0	0	86
N9TVT -NOV							
	30	30	10	0	0	0	70
W9RSX	40	20	10	0	0	0	70
KA9RZL	11	4	20	0	0	0	35

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY NOVEMBER 2004

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TL
K9JPS	0	465	33	457	955
KA9EKG	7	185	183	5	380
W9IHW	0	155	30	155	340
W9SWL	0	40	16	7	108
K9LGU	5	49	48	2	104
WA9ZTY	0	34	45	16	95
W9UW	0	43	47	0	90
AG9G	0	17	60	0	77
W9BHL	0	19	54	0	73
K9FHI	0	23	35	0	58
KG9B	0	2	44	1	47
W9KKM	0	3	34	3	40
KE9VU	0	21	14	0	35
WD9FLJ	3	15	13	3	34
W9RCW	0	0	32	0	32
K9GU	0	0	30	0	30
KN9P	0	12	12	0	24
W9RSX	0	4	15	2	21
KB9ROB	0	18	3	0	21
WB9ICH	0	15	3	1	19
AA9BB	0	0	15	0	15
K9UTQ	0	5	3	5	13
KA9RZL	2	1	7	0	10
W9PVD	0	1	2	0	3

(Continued on page 9)

The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654
(262) 284-9346
Skaplan@mcw.edu

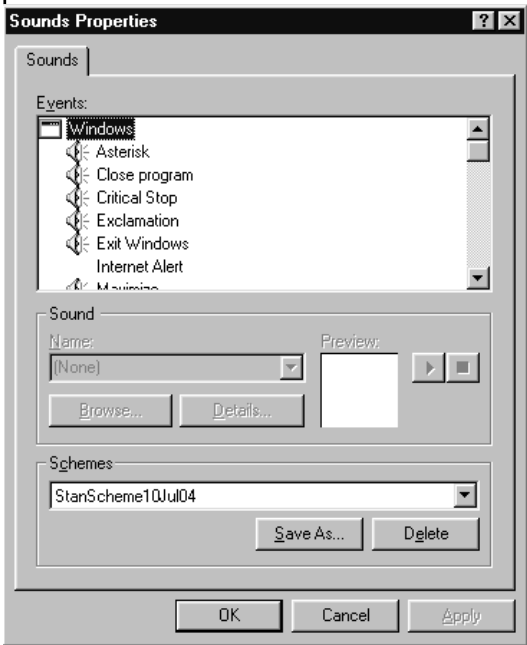


No. 121. Sounds

When Windows comes up on my machines, my voice says “OK, Kaplan, get to work!”. Then, as each program opens, a pop sounds. As programs close, the sound of a door slamming is heard. As other events occur, (critical stop, exclamation, question, and many others), various sounds are heard. In this way, I keep track of what is going on in my machine, often in the background with no visible indication on the desktop. Some of these are tongue-in-cheek, as the Windows Start above. For question, a woman’s voice exclaims “What do you want me to do?”. When I shut down, my own voice says “Thank goodness it is finally shutting down.”

The point is, a myriad of sounds are available in Windows, and you can record your own to spice up what is already there. Or you can go out on the web (for example, <http://www.findsounds.com/types.html>), and find literally thousands of small sound files. Coupling sounds with events is not just for fun, it enhances your knowledge of what your machine is doing, and it may even alert you to problems that creep up.

How can you customize your sounds? Easy as pie. Click **Start, Settings, Control Panel** and find the Sounds icon. Click it and this panel will pop up.



Now click **Asterisk**, and the sound associated with it will show in the grayed out box labeled Name. Alternatively, if no sound is associated with Asterisk, or if you want to change it to some other sound, click the down arrow at the right of the box showing a grayed out (None) in this picture. If you don’t find what you want in the pull-down box, click **Browse** and select a sound you find there. Whenever you have a sound selected, you can listen to it by clicking the right arrow in the **Preview** area (shown grayed out here). When you have gone through all the events listed and changed them to your own liking, click the **Apply** button (grayed out here, at the bottom). Then click the **Save As** button, type in some name for the scheme as I have done in this illustration (StanScheme10Jul04), and you will have a permanent record of your customized settings. Later, if you or some wayward program makes a change that you decide is not good, just re-invoke the scheme you created.

Windows 98 keeps its sounds in C:\Windows\Media, and the little applet shown here looks for its sound files there, so it is a good idea if you save downloaded sound files to the same folder. That way, you can increase your choices as you increase the number of sound files in C:\Windows\Media. By the way, most are *.wav files. Files ending with this extension are always sound files.

Of course, all this assumes you have a sound card installed, and that it is working properly. If it is not working, everything in this Sounds applet will be grayed out. If your sound card is present but not working properly, it may be that your sound drivers are not installed. In that case, no sounds (and no PSK-31) until you solve the problem. That is a topic for a future article.

Now, how can you record your own voice? Plug a microphone into your sound card, in the microphone jack. Which one is that? Often (but not always), the mike jack has a little picture of a microphone engraved near it. Often (but not always), the mike jack is surrounded by a pink or red plastic ring. Often (but not always), it is the jack farthest from the 15-pin joystick connector on the sound card. Now, click **Start, Programs, Accessories, Entertainment, Sound Recorder**. A little Sound Recorder applet panel will pop up on your desktop. Select **File, New** so that you are working in a new

file. Now click the red button to start the recorder, and speak into the mike. As you speak, a crude waveform of your voice should show in the panel. Click the button with the black square in it to stop the recording. Now click the right arrow to hear what you have recorded.

Each time you make a test recording, remember to select **File, New**, so you are starting with a fresh, blank file. When you like the result, click **Save As** and point it to your

C:\Windows\Media folder, so it will be available when you associate sounds with events. That is it. A wonderful way to personalize and customize your machine.

By the way, you can record a sound file as outlined above and send it to a friend as an attachment to an email message. A talking Post-It note! Pretty neat! Send me one, if you are so inclined. Happy Computing!

WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT

DECEMBER 2004

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: KB9ENO, STM: K9LGU, ACC: K9XB, SGL: AD9X, OOC: N9VE, PIC: KB9NUM. TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK ASM: K9UTQ, W9RCW, W9DGI, N9VE.

** With regret I forward to you the passing of Wes Stonier, K1CLQ, 53. Don Liedl, WB9OQX, became a Silent Key. Don was a former member of the Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club. Sad to report that Charles "Charlie" Imbruglia, WA9CPE, long time member of the ORC passed away. Herb Christensen, WB9DRO, became a Silent Key. Herb was a member of ORC.

** A reminder to everyone to please notify me of a Silent Key. I need an official obituary notice (newspaper website or paper announcement) for posting in QST.

** The Ozaukee Radio Club has an active Mentor program. It is expected that the “Mentor” establishes contact with an assigned new club member and make sure they are made to feel welcome at the meetings and encourage them to participate in the various activities of the club. I encourage other clubs to adopt a similar program!! Most of us recall that one special person who helped us in our early growth in the hobby. Perhaps, if it was not for that special amateur, you wouldn't be where you are today- professionally or in amateur radio. Now, it is time for you to step up and contribute your knowledge and time to help others. Become an Elmer!

** The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association's YL Net is now held on Sunday evenings at 8:00 p.m. local time on 147.135. Net Control, Trenia Oestreich, KC9ASL, would like to get enough YL's consistently checking in to have a net control schedule so that everyone can get some experience in this amateur skill.

** STM NOVEMBER 2004report from Denny, K9LGU: FAQ #35 - How can we improve the image of traffic handling in our section? Thank you for that insightful question. Yes, traffic handling is being done quite well in Wisconsin, but there's definitely room for improvement. We want all operators, agencies, and the public to know what we do. I would propose a four-point plan.

(1) Get involved. Check into some section nets (listed on the Wisconsin page of the ARRL website). Listen carefully to the net protocol and copy along with the net control or with a station receiving traffic.

(2) Send and receive some formal traffic. Using Operating aid FSD-218 (the famous pink card), prepare and send some traffic. Need a card? Ask me or download it from <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/forms/fsd218.html>. Offer to receive and deliver some traffic on a net. The best way to get comfortable with the process is to do it.

(3) Offer your services as a net control or as a liaison station taking traffic to subsequent nets. You could, for example, take traffic from the Badger Emergency Net to the Wisconsin Side Band Net or from Late WIN to the Badger Weather Net or the BEN. You could go to or from the Ninth Region Net. (4) Finally, tell someone. Spread the word about what we do in handling traffic as part of the National Traffic System. Explain how the skills of handling messages transfer to ARES operations, dx-ing, contesting, and everyday operation. Mention traffic handling to licensing classes as a typical part of the public service we provide. Tell your friends and offer to send free radiograms anywhere in the U.S. and Canada. I'm your Section Traffic Manager, K9LGU, and I've approved this message. 73.

MONTHLY SECTION NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 2004
NET QNI QTC QTR SSNS NM
BWN 1453 1828 2842 30 W9IXG
BEN 424 45 616 27 KE9VU
WSBN 680 99 951 30 K9FHI
WNN 155 15 306 26 KB9ROB
WSSN 126 18 200 17 WA9ZTY
WIN/E 186 39 291 27 WB9ICH
WIN/L 148 58 317 28 W9UW
WRACES 275 0 473 9 KB9ENO
totals 3447 2102 5996 194
Happy Holidays. - K9LGU/STM

** Wisconsin ARES/RACES is looking for a newsletter editor. Newsletters are posted on this website: <http://www.wi-aresraces.org/Newsletter.htm> If you have experience in editing a newsletter and would like to edit this monthly newsletter, please contact Bill Niemuth, kb9eno@arrl.net

** T'is the season for having club Holiday Parties. These take a lot of work so volunteer to help your club get it organized!! It is, also, the time for most clubs to nominate the officers for next year. If you haven't held an office, this could be a good time to run for a position. Most clubs could use a breath of fresh air and new ideas. Step up to the plate and become active in your club as an officer or Board member!

(Continued on page 9)

Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bsas.org](http://www.bsas.org)

Mancorad Radio Club

Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61

December, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Vice President Carl (KA9WYK) called the meeting to order at 1931 CST, December 8, 2004. The November meeting minutes were reviewed by Secretary Dan (N9NCU) and accepted by motion from Denise (N4WGK) and second by Chris (KB9VLS). Treasurer Dick (N9QFY) gave the treasurer’s report which was accepted by motion from Travis (KB9YRC) and second by Bill (K9DUX).

John (NZ9Z) gave a quick rundown on the upcoming ARRL EmComm I course, which will start 3rd week in January. The class is full. Class participants should give their textbook cost portion (\$6.00) to Dick.

Steve (KB9GPN) reported on the library book project status: school library books are delivered, the Kiel Public Library books are delivered, the ARRL Library Book set has been received, and the two remaining ARRL Handbooks are finally also received. A meeting tomorrow with Manitowoc Public Library to set plans for formal presentation of the library book set donation with a photo opportunity had to be postponed because of a family member death of one of the MPL people. It will be rescheduled. MPL will do press releases to whomever we ask them to.

All club members should have received a letter for annual membership renewal and signup for the Christmas party to be held on January 7, 2005. Return your membership renewal and party plans to the club via the PO Box indicated in the letter ASAP because they are due now. So far, 33 people are signed up for the Christmas Party; 40 dinners have been guaranteed to Cedar Ridge; cost is \$20.00 per couple.

Dick reported that two Brat Fry 2005 dates are going to be pursued soon to get the best picks available before they disappear to other fund raisers. Also, the picnic committee will be looking at the date and site for the 2005 annual summer picnic; this year’s was held on the last Saturday in August at Neshotah Park in Two Rivers. Those present at the meeting agreed the site was acceptable, and could be looked at for 2005 also.

Carl discussed a proposal submitted by Fred (W6BSF) to purchase a Heil Pro Set Plus headset and microphone for HF use during Field Day, emergency support activations, the Cobia, etc. During this week’s Point Beach Emergency Exercise a head set was brought from home to EOC2 because two stations were simultaneously operating; simultaneous operation would have been extremely difficult without the headset, and the club presently has none. Cost estimate is approximately \$220.00. The Board of Directors recommends the pur-

chase; a motion was made, seconded, and approved by a show of hands to proceed.

Dan (N9NCU) briefing on the Point Beach Nuclear Plant emergency exercise conducted on December 7, 2005. Eight club members staffed Manitowoc County RACES support for the event, and it went very well; thanks to N4WGK, KB9VLS, N9JZZ, NZ9Z, N9QFO, KB9YRC, W6BSF and N9NCU.

The attendance drawing was won by KB9GRC who was not present; prize goes to \$6.00 for next month.

The meeting was closed at 2000 CST.

After the meeting closed, Carl gave a presentation on the Badger Weather Net. This net is the oldest currently operating net and meets daily between 0515 and 0715 CST on 3985 KHz. Carl explained how the net operates and what is reported. Currently, there is no representation from Manitowoc County. Carl played an audio tape of portion of an actual net that he recently participated in. For information on the Badger Weather Net, go to website www.crh.noaa.gov/mkx/badgernet.php.

Lunch was served with absolutely killer brownies (thanks Theresa!).

Respectfully submitted,
Dan (N9NCU), Secretary

Meeting Attendance (24):

Dan (N9NCU)	Dick (N9QFY)
John (NZ9Z)	Chris (KB9VLS)
Travis (KB9YRC)	Gene (KB9KXF)
Mary (KB9GOY)	Theresa (KB9KXE)
Ken (K9HAG)	Bill (K9DUX)
Bob (KB9INK)	Carl (KA9WYK)
Mike (WA9VVS)	Steve (KB9GPN)
Winston (KC9FVR)	Denise (N4WGK)
Gene (WB9DQD)	Roger (W9NPX)
Oran (N9VIA)	Lyle (WB9VTM)
Vern (KB9EME)	Mark (N9JZZ)
and 2 guests	

2005 Mancorad Event Sponsors

Brat Fry Fundraisers – Dan (N9FVZ) and Theresa (KB9KXE)
Family Picnic and Christmas Party–Dan (N9FVZ), Gene (WB9DQD) and Dan (N9NCU)
Website Activities – Carl (KA9WYK)
Meeting Programs – Carl (KA9WYK)
Ham of the Year Committee – Mancorad Board
Public Relations – John (NZ9Z)
Field Day – John (NZ9Z), Travis (KB9YRC) and Dennis (W9DWN)
Cobia – Fred (W6BSF)
Lighthouse – Dennis (W9DWN)

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Jerry Graebel - W9GLG
P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI

No news received from the WWVRA for this issue. We look forward to hearing from the club in the next issue.

January, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Vice President Carl (KA9WYK) called the meeting to order at 1933 CST, January 12, 2005. The December, 2004, meeting minutes were reviewed by Secretary Dan (N9NCU) and accepted by motion from Ken (K9HAG) and second by John (NZ9Z). Treasurer Dick (N9QFY) gave the treasurer’s report and accepted by motion from Theresa (KB9KXE) and second by Ken.

John gave a report on amateur radio communications after the earthquake and resultant tsunami from Sri Lanka. Victor Goonetilleke (KS7VK) has been in email contact with John and reported that neither he nor the school was affected as they are located 5 miles inland. A motion was made by Dan and seconded by Dick that Mancorad make a \$300.00 donation to the Radio Society of Sri Lanka for purchase of amateur radio equipment which was reported as being in short supply during the disaster; amateur radio was the only communications means available early on in the disaster response. \$300.00 should be sufficient to allow purchase of two (2) VHF handi-talkies. Individual Mancorad members wishing to additionally contribute should send a check to Dick at the Mancorad PO box address either with a note, or annotating the check as for the “RSSL”.

Mancorad 2005 Event Dates:

- Dick reported that two Brat Fry 2005 dates are going to be pursued soon to get the best picks available before they disappear to other fund raisers. One Fry will be in Manitowoc, and the other in Two Rivers.
- The picnic committee suggested that the 2005 picnic be held at Two rivers Neshotah park on Saturday, August 27, 2005; after discussion, this was accepted as an alternate date with a preferred date of September 10, 2005. Dan will obtain a park permit from Two Rivers for either the preferred date, or the alternate date if necessary.

- The 2005 Christmas Party will be held on January 6, 2006, at Cedar Ridge again.

- Bike-a-thon dates – no dates were identified at the meeting. Dan will contact Steve (N9PBL) for the Leukemia-Lymphoma event date, and Ken will get the date for the Kewaunee event.

Steve (KB9GPN) reported on the library book project status. A meeting was held with the Manitowoc Public Library today. Logistics for delivery of new books, recommendation for old book removal from circulation, and public relations releases have been worked out. This project should be wrapped up by the February meeting.

Carl initiated a discussion about the loan of amateur radio equipment to Mancorad mem-

ber “new” licensed hams. This is hoped to be an incentive to bring new hams into the club. Dan agreed, as club secretary, to maintain a book of loaned equipment, both club owned and club member owned. Dan will develop an email to be sent to all club members soliciting interest in participating. “Ground rules” discussed included not loaning club equipment used for Field Day, ARES/RACES activations, etc. Also, the equipment available for loan should be in known working condition.

Ken made a recommendation that the 2005 “Ham-of-the Year” committee should be compromised of three (3) individuals; a former “Ham-of-the Year” and two (2) volunteers. This year’s committee was the club Board. The recommendation was unanimously accepted by those present.

Dan gave a wrap-up of 2004 ARES/RACES net checkins; the fourth quarter of 2004 had 13 nets with 121 net checkins, an average of 9.3 checkins per net. Also, four (4) new individuals have joined ARES/RACES for 2005; Fran (AA9LV), Carl (KA9WYK), Mike (WA9VVS) and Winston (KC9FVR); welcome to all of these new members.

The attendance drawing was won by N9JZZ who was not present; prize goes to \$7.00 for next month.

The meeting was closed at 2039 CST, and lunch was served.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan (N9NCU), Secretary

Meeting Attendance (18):

Dan (N9NCU)	Dick (N9QFY)
John (NZ9Z)	Gene (KB9KXF)
Mary (KB9GOY)	Theresa (KB9KXE)
Ken (K9HAG)	Bill (K9DUX)
Carl (KA9WYK)	Steve (KB9GPN)
Winston (KC9FVR)	Denise (N4WGK)
Gene (WB9DQD)	Roger (W9NPX)
Fran (AA9LV)	Rahlf (N9AWG)
Fred (W6BSF)	Bob (Visitor)

2005 Mancorad Event Sponsors

Brat Fry Fundraisers – Dan (N9FVZ) and Theresa (KB9KXE)
Family Picnic and Christmas Party–Dan (N9FVZ), Gene (WB9DQD) and Dan (N9NCU)
Website Activities – Carl (KA9WYK)
Meeting Programs – Carl (KA9WYK)
Ham of the Year Committee – A former award recipient, plus two volunteers
Public Relations – John (NZ9Z)
Field Day – John (NZ9Z), Travis (KB9YRC) and Dennis (W9DWN)
Cobia – Fred (W6BSF)
Lighthouse – Dennis (W9DWN)

(Continued from page 3)

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A Hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Get your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html
or
ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

See QST, W1AW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. ARRL/VEC no longer gives a free code test or Element 2. Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2005 test fee at \$14.00. FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC.

Appleton, WI

Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building, 1302 East Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: w9mdp@arrl.net.

Eau Claire, WI

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W., Grand Ave. Enter off 2nd Avenue entrance, Eau Claire, WI
Technician, General and Extra Class exams. Walkins welcome. Examination session coordinator: Jonathan E., Case, (715) 834-1540. www.ecarc.org. w9eau@ecarc.org.

Fond du Lac, WI

Fond du Lac ARC (ARRL/VEC). Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac. 9:00 a.m. Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Douglas J. Schultz, 920-922-3088, schultz74@charter.net.

Madison, WI

First Saturday monthly: 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Space Place, 1605 South Park Street, Madison. Please bring a picture ID, your original license, a copy of your license, and the original and a copy of any relevant CSCEs, and a check for \$12.00 made out to the ARRL/VEC. No appointments are neces-

sary to take exams. Exams start promptly at 8 a.m. Questions may be directed to Tim Czerwonka, WO9U, at 608-239-3696 (home phone) or sent to wo9u@arrl.net.

Mauston, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsored by the Juneau County ARC. 9:30 a.m. (Walk-ins allowed). Mauston City Hall, 303 Mansion St., Community Room, 4th Floor, Mauston, WI. Contact Edward J. Wagner, (608) 584-4858. ab9fn@arrl.net

Menominee, MI

Marinette-Menominee Amateur Radio Club. Location: The cafeteria of Bay Area Med Center, US-41 in Menominee. Building located next to KFC just off the Interstate Bridge. All classes given. Advance notice preferred, but not required. Test fee is \$10 with two pieces of identification required. Contact Jeff Rymer, N9PQU at jrymer@ez-net.com or Ed Engleman, KG8CX, at dxer@cybrzn.com. We will monitor the 147.000 (107.2 pl) repeater in event further directions or info is needed.

Milwaukee, WI

Badger Examiners (W5YI VEC) September thru April, every third Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, Milwaukee (use the entrance numbered 5730). Exams are given at the old Sterman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$10.00, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, W19M at (414) 355-0237.

Milwaukee, WI

Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club (MRAC VEC) Last Saturday, except in March, June, August, and December. In addition, we test at the West Allis RAC Swapfest in January and at Superfest in April. 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road (the door you enter is actually numbered 5730), Milwaukee. For additional information, call (262) 797-MRAC. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$8.00 for the exam fee. Walkins are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card. Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Contact: John G. Kraak, 262-797-6722.

Oshkosh, WI (Omro)

Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio exams monthly on the second Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Racine, WI

ARRL VEC Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Paul B. Smedegaard, N9RGW, 929 Lathrop Ave., Racine, WI 53405-2339. Telephone: (262) 637 4750. or e-mail to smedegaa@wi.net

Sheboygan, WI

Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Exams are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The test areas are handicap accessible with signage posted to direct candidates to the proper area of the building. Walk-ins are accepted, however notification ahead of time of your intention to appear would be appreciated. Contact: Art Pahr K9XJ, 920-876-2370. N8029 Willow Road k9xi@arrl.net Plymouth, WI 53073-2929

Shell Lake, WI

NORWESCO ARES/RACES (ARRL/VEC). Washburn County Law Enforcement Center, lower level meeting room, 421 Hwy 63, Shell Lake. Walk-ins allowed. This is for all classes of license. Persons wishing to upgrade an existing license should bring a photocopy of it to submit. Also need a photo ID to prove who you are. The fee is \$10.00. Contact: Richard J. Eckenrode, 715-466-4109. Email: cen34109@centurytel.net. Web Site: fp1.centurytel.net/norwesco/.

Tomahawk, WI

Tomahawk ARRL VE Team (ARRL/VEC). Last Saturday of every month, January thru October. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633, dcollins@newnorth.net.

St. Paul, MN

Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m. Test Site: St. Paul Technical College, 235 Marshall Ave., St Paul, MN. Ed Van Cleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108. www.qsl.net/sprc/index.html.

Rockford, IL

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at St. Anthony Hospital, 5660 E State St., Rockford, IL. Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail: WB9QYV@aol.com.

The above listing of Amateur Radio Test sites has been compiled from several sources. If your site is not listed of the information is incorrect or incomplete, please let K9EN know at the addresses listed on page 2. We will carry the date listings in every issue, but the full information is only carried in alternate issues or as space permits. Please save this information if you are planning on making use of one of the exam sites.

FROM THE EDITOR

In last month's issue, we failed to give credit to Don Evenson, K9JYX for submitting the article and photos on "The Hamfest after the Hamfest". Thank you Don.

As we have mentioned before, we are making available a set of 3 CDRs of the back issues of Smoke Signals, and some other publications of state wide interest. We have a complete set of The Badger Herald published by Don Stenz, K9KSA (SK), some of the old WNA bulletins, some of the old W9ER (Satterfield Electronics), and are looking for others such as the WIN newsletters put out by "The Old Geezer", Bud Woida, W9KQB (SK). If you have, or know where some of these or any other newsletter of interest to Badger State Amateurs are located, please let me know.

When the project is completed a copy of the CDs will be donated to the State Historical

Society to preserve an record of Amateur Radio in Wisconsin.

We have now scanned in most of the back issues of BSSS and now have only 52 issues left to complete. In our searching through the piles of extra copies we have saved here, we have been unable to locate some of the back issues.

If anyone has any of the following issues, please let me know. I will be glad to send you a stamped envelope for you to mail it to me so that I can scan it in to the computer and return the issue to you.

1990	July	
1992	March	
1995	July	found
1995	November	found
1997	August	found
2001	November	
2001	December	

Thanks to Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO for finding the 1995 and 1997 missing copies.

We are planning on attending the Jefferson Hamfest, AES Superfest, and the MARA Hamfest in Stoughton. Plans later in the year are still open, however we expect to attending many of the Amateur radio activities during the coming year.

73 ken k9en, k9en@arrl.net

Excuse Me, I don't believe I understood the question. Did you say you were looking for the facts, the fax or the faq?

"There's two theories to arguin' with a woman. Neither one works."
- Will Rogers

The trouble with being punctual is that nobody's there to appreciate it.
-- Franklin P. Jones

Books Clearance!

50% off list price!

NEW books by ARRL
and others from the
past Hamfest season

*Computer books 20%
off"*

Send an S.A.S.E.

Brownsville Sales Co., Inc.
Rich's General Store and
Surplus

Route 2, Highway "H" North stanley, WI
54768-9418
Telephone (715) 644-2112

Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

(Continued from page 11)
tion on this event. Some discussion on the rates and hall rental went on amongst the members present. Mr. Bill proposed that the club treasury pay the hall rental for this event and the proposal was approve unanimously. President Schulze proposed also that club put together a mailing with the event information, menu choices, RSVP and prepay form, club dues notice, roster, ect. This was sent to the board to be attended to with utmost haste. So watch you mail-box for this important information.

New Business:
Mr. Schulze (our fountain of information) brought to the membership that the Baraboo Circus Heritage Days group would like an Amateur Radio demonstration at their May event. The dates are scheduled to be 20, 21, and 22 May 2005. Some discussion about this was had. Mr. Plouffe made a motion for the club to sponsor a demonstration at this event; motion was seconded by Mr. Harrison and carried 9 yeas and one nay by the club alternate nayer.

The club meeting schedule was brought to the membership, after a short discussion Mr. Plouffe made a motion to set the club meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. After three calls for a second his motion suffered a slow, agonizing death.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to maintain the same rotating Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday schedule, and this motion was seconded by Mr. Gurgel. After a short discussion the membership approved this motion unanimously.

Next years scheduled meetings will be as follows. Tuesday January 4, Wednesday February 2, Thursday March 3, Tuesday April 5, Wednesday May 4, Thursday June 2, Tuesday July 5, Wednesday August 3, Thursday September 1, Tuesday October 4, Wednesday November 2, Thursday December 1, 2005.

Mr. Plouffe brought to the membership information about an ARES/RACES project to set up an Emergency Communications center in the new Reedsburg Police Department Building. Mr. Sweeney WD9JIB and others at have been hard at work making arrangements with the officials in Reedsburg for this joint venture with the city for some time now. It was brought to the membership to donate some funds to this worthy cause for the purchase of radio equipment, power supply, ect. A discussion was had on the particulars of what the City of Reedsburg is investing and the scope of this project. Mr. Harrison motioned that this item be tabled until next months meeting and was seconded by Mr. Sweeney. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schulze brought to the membership a information on changing the clubs tax status to a 501C3 status, a discussion was had by the members present on the merits of this, disadvantages and cost. Mr. Gurgel made a motion to table this matter until the next meeting, was seconded by the other Mr. Bill (Flying with eagles) KC9CVD.

At 2031 local (8:31p.m. CST) Mr. Plouffe made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Stein, carried unanimously in the rush to start the next important meeting.

Respectfully Submitted
Robert D Loomis, YTARC Secretary

Members and Friends Attending		
Tom Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Maurey Gurgel	KA9TBU	Reedsburg
Pete Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
John Stein	N5SHF	Reedsburg
Rick Plouffe	N9ROY	Wisconsin Dells
Juanita Plouffe Nayer's	XYL	Wisconsin Dells
Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo
Bill Klinkner	N9KXX	Sauk City
Bill Stehling	KC9CVD	Sauk City
Robert Loomis	KB9VSQ	Reedsburg

Information submitted for the YTARC Christmas party by John for the Reedsburg VFW
Dinner January 15, 2005
Meal will be buffet style: pick one of the following,
Turkey and Swiss Stack or Turkey and Ham
With: Mashed potatoes and gravy, glazed carrots with butter and brown sugar, orange fluff, coleslaw, rolls and butter, brownie with mint ice cream and chocolate sauce, coffee and milk. On real plates and with real silverware.
Cost \$10.00 a person and includes taxes and tip.
Cash bar open from 1800 to 2030 (6pm to 8:30pm)

MADISON AREA REPEATER ASSOCIATION

2005 Madison Hamfest and Computer Show

Sponsored by the Madison Area Repeater Association – W9HSY
The date will be Sunday, April 17, 2005
Doors Open to the public at 8 AM – Dealer setup Saturday night

HUGE FLEA MARKET! – INDIVIDUALS & DEALERS
MANDT COMMUNITY CENTER – STOUGHTON, WISCONSIN

**TALK-IN ON 147.150 (123 Hz) REPEATER
ADMISSION PER PERSON - \$4.00 ADVANCD - \$5.00 AT THE DOOR
(Children 14 and under free)
VENDOR TABLES – 8 FT TABLES \$24 EACH

Questions? For More Information, see the MARA Web site at:www.qsl.net/mara
Or write to: MARA, Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890 – Call 608.245.8890
E-mail: w9hsy@execpc.com

AMATEUR RADIO – NEW – USED – COMPUTERS – PARTS – TOOLS
PRIZES- BUY-SELL-BARGAINS – SHORT WAVE – ELECTRONICS -VE EXAMS

MARA 2005 Hamfest and Computer Show TICKET ORDER FORM

Please send me _____ Admission Tickets @ \$4.00 each \$ _____

Plus flea market table reservations (shown below) Table TOTAL \$ _____
(All vendors must have admission ticket in addition to table reservation)

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Name: _____

Business Name, if any: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Table reservations postmarked by March 25, 2005 after March 25, 2005
Eight foot tables (for AC power add \$18) _____ @ \$15 _____ @ \$18
Indoor only – No outdoor sales! (\$25 on day of swapfest, if available)
Mail completed form with check to: MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890
Include a self addressed stamped #9 or #10 business sized envelope for your tickets

BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS

Subscription Form
Regular Individual Subscription Rate
1 Year (6 issues): \$13.95
PLEASE PRINT New Renewal

Name _____

Call Sign (if any): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-mail address: _____

Send me my BSSS by e-mail ☐ Send this form, with check or money order to:
Send me my BSSS by mail ☐ Ken Ebnetter, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901.
Send me my BSSS by both ☐ Please do NOT send cash.

WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT

(Continued from page 5)

** West Allis Radio Amateur Club again partnered with the Potawatomi Area Council, BSA, during JOTA. Ten Tiger Cub Scouts, ages seven and eight, and their seven adult leaders from Pack 260 learned about the fundamentals of radio and the history of amateur radio. Well done, WARAC!

** Congratulations to former Section Manager, Roy Pedersen. K9FHI. Roy celebrated his 80th birthday on November 13th and still very active on all the nets and in the RRRCC!!

** I wish everyone Happy Holidays and best wishes for an active new year!! 73, Don, W9IXG

ARRL Wisconsin Section Section Manager: Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG w9ixg@arrl.org

JANUARY 2005

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0500-0715 W9IXG. BEN 3985 1200 KE9VU. WSBN 3985 1715-1800 K9FHI. WNN 3723 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3645 1830 WA9ZTY. WIN-E 3662 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3662 2200 W9UW. (All times are Central)

** With regret, I inform you of the passing of these amateurs: WD9DTX, Phil Kail, 58. W8WYK, Masayuki "Mas" Iyama, age 88. Mas was an Amateur for 66 years. W9QCZ, Jim Ralitz, 73, was a past member of both the Rib Mountain Repeater Association and the Wisconsin Valley Radio Association. He was an avid participant in the Marathon County ARES weather spotting nets of the mid 1970's and 1980's.

** From "The Week In Review": THE RULES FOR THE MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB'S FM SIMPLEX CONTEST are now available at <http://www.qsl.net/mrac/index.html>. The rules are essentially the same as last year and the date is February 13, 2005 from 1:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Central Time. ORGANIZE your club for the competition and get permanent recognition on the perpetual plaque at Amateur Electronics' Supply in Milwaukee. Last year the Badger Contesters fell one entry short of taking the Club Event!

** Below, is a link to a very good site for the lists of things you should consider putting in a duffle bag or backpack (or whatever you feel comfortable carrying) to "grab and go" if we are called out to assist with emergency communications, according to Jeananne Bargholz, N9VSV, Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator, Marketing & Recruiting. The Comprehensive ARES/RACES Recommended Personal Equipment Checklist (Modified from a list devised by K7AAE, first published in November 1994; edited by WB9RQR) <http://www.wi-aresraces.org/docs/deploychecklist.pdf> There are some very good suggestions given at this site so I highly recommend you look it over!

** Happy 100th birthday to Stanley

"Red" Sorenson, K9MRB!

** From our STM, Denny, K9LGU: FAQ #36: What does a net manager do? As the name suggests, a section traffic net manager manages to manage the net by appointing net control stations, collecting statistics to check on the operation of the net, representing the net with the Wisconsin Nets Association, Ltd., and appointing representatives to the WNA from the net. The NM is an appointment of an ARRL member by the Section Manager on the recommendation of the Section Traffic Manager who is forever indebted to those who volunteer to serve as a net manager. For details about this special appointment, you might want to consult any of the current NMs -- W9IXG, KE9VU, K9FHI, KB9ROB, WA9ZTY, WB9ICH, W9UW, or N9VAO. You can also read about it at www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/nm.html As a result of the efforts of the NMs and net members, 2004 saw an increase of 1073 (3%) checkins and an increase of 2369 (10%) pieces of traffic over 2003. Many thanks to our NMs who have served Ham Radio in Wisconsin over the past year, and to all who support their efforts and our nets. You remind us why we do what we do. 73 -- K9LGU/STM-WI

NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY for 2004			
NET	QNI	QTC	NM
BWN	18040	22075	W9IXG
BEN	5918	791	KE9VU
WSBN	8994	1159	K9FHI
WNN	1961	189	KB9ROB
WSSN	2198	289	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	2545	758	WB9ICH
WIN/L	2421	698	W9UW
WRACES	1006	7	N6NKO/KB9ENO
totals	43083	25966	

** We would like to wish Vic Shier, KB9UKE, farewell and thanks for being president of Ozaukee Radio Club! Nice job, Vic!

** This is a good time to remind all clubs to be sure to update your affiliated club status when you make key officer changes. You can go to this site for information on how to update your club status: www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/fsd2

** The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association will be again participating in the Badger State Winter Games and Wisconsin Special Olympics Winter Games at the Nine Mile Recreation Area in the town of Rib Mountain. This year, the Badger State Winter Games will be February 5 and 6 and the Wisconsin Special Olympics Winter Games will be held on February 12 and 13 with the opening ceremony on Friday, February 11. We thank WVRA for providing communications support for this Wisconsin event!

** It was nice to see many of you at the WARAC Hamfest and we look forward to the next one-- Tri-County ARC Swapfest on March 20. <http://www.cmdline.com/tcarc>

73, Don, W9IXG 608-274-1886 w9ixg@arrl.org, ARRL Wisconsin Section Manager: Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG w9ixg@arrl.org

Tri-County Amateur Radio Club Presents:

HAMFEST 2005 Sunday, March 20

Jefferson County Fairgrounds Activity Center Hwy 18 West, Jefferson, WI From 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM

VE Testing On Site - Starting at 9:00AM

- Vendors will be admitted at 7:00AM.
- General admission and sales begin at 8:00AM.
- Vendors-only parking will be provided for unloading.
- Food and Beverages available.

TALK IN ON THE 145.49 REPEATER

ADMISSION: \$5.00 Table Space 8 Foot @ 6.00 each

RESERVE YOUR SPACE EARLY!

TCARC Contact Info:

TCARC, 213 Frederick Street, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 920-563-6381 evenings 920-563-9551 (FAX) www.cmdline.com/tcarc/ jsatt@ticon.net

(Continued from page 4)

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY DECEMBER 2004

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
K9JPS	0	572	34	562	1168 - BPL
KA9EKG	14	278	289	9	518 - BPL
N9CK	17	173	167	6	363
K9LGU	0	72	61	3	136
AG9G	0	29	79	0	108
W9SWL	0	29	57	5	91
WD9FLJ	4	39	36	8	87
WA9ZTY	1	24	43	4	72
K9FHI	0	29	35	0	64
W9UW	0	28	19	0	47
KG9B	0	4	38	0	42
W9KKM	0	3	35	3	41
N9TVT	0	0	38	0	38
W9BHL	0	5	32	0	37
KE9VU	0	22	13	0	35
KN9P	0	14	16	0	32
N9TVT -NOV	0	0	30	0	30
AA9BB	1	1	25	1	28
KB9ROB	0	15	4	2	21
W9RSX	0	1	18	1	20
W9PVD	0	7	8	9	16
WB9ICH	0	13	2	0	15
K9UTQ	0	1	3	1	5
KA9RZL	0	4	0	0	4



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association
Joel Papke, N9BQM, Treasurer
7968 Ubinger Road, Pittsville, WI 54466-9214

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor—453 Cottage Grove Avenue—Green Bay, WI 54304—e-mail: kb9aln@gbonline.com

WAPR News December, 2004

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

Hello and belated Happy New Year. I hope your holidays were fun and you're weathering winter well.

As we're in the doldrums of winter, there's not too much news to report. As you may have noticed by looking at the top of the page, there is a new mailing address for those of you who wish to contact us to join WAPR.

Al, NOGMJ has been our treasurer for a number of years now, and his schedule no longer permits any time for that activity. So, he's turned things over to Joel for the time being. Joel is currently working on the software end of bookkeeping for WAPR, and has not gotten things set up just yet. For those of you who've sent membership dues checks in, please be patient. Joel will get them deposited as soon as he can get things straightened out. Thanks to Al for his work, not only as treasurer, but as a node operator and as a radio man.

Joel reports that his BBS computer is giving him problems and is intermittently on the air. As soon as he gets the computer back up to snuff, his BBS will reappear on its normal, consistent basis.

I mentioned in the last issue that we're working on a node map of the state of Wisconsin. I haven't had too much time to devote to the project, but have gotten one really good response from Josh, AB9FT in Sheboygan. Thanks to Josh for a very comprehensive list of many, many nodes.

I am looking for more. If you are in a position to do so (meaning that you have sufficient knowledge of your local nodes and you have the time), please reply and send me information that we'll find helpful. Here's what we have been collecting:

- Location - Nearest City or Town
- Alias of the Node or BBS
- Call-Sign of the Node or BBS
- Node type, BBS type, or other info.
- Such as weather BBS or Emergency Management/ARES BBS. Node versions can be obtained by issuing the "U" command).
- Frequency
- Baud Rate and if the node is a LAN, Backbone, DX or other type of node.
- Any notes on special operation.

When the completed list is compiled and checked, I will distribute text versions via the

packet network and E-Mail, and place a graphic version here (space permitting) and on the Internet. I thank you in advance for your help.

That's our short news report for this time out.

Until next time, 73 from Andy.

Ham Implementation of 802.11 Packet Radio

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

In our last features, we had a short introduction to 802.11 technology, we talked about how a wireless ethernet network is configured and continued by exploring antennas. This time out, we'll explore feedline and connectors. These are very important parts of a permanent, long-range amateur station utilizing 802.11 devices.

A Few Feedline Facts

There are 4 basic types of feed systems used by amateurs, mostly distinguished by their physical characteristics. These are:

- Open-wire Balanced Feed
- Flexible coaxial cable
- Inflexible coaxial "Hard Line"
- Inflexible Wave Guide

Open-wire balanced feed is mostly used in HF work, but can be used with excellent results at VHF and even UHF. Think TV twin lead when you think of this type of feed, that's basically what it is. It features very low loss, but has a few disadvantages. Among them are a lack of shielding, allowing external signals to interfere, specific installation requirements and a lack of durability. Any gain experienced by reduced feedline loss is often negated by the loss in one or more balun (balanced-to-unbalanced) transformers. It is really not a consideration for use in 802.11 devices.

Flexible coaxial cable is what we most often use, and is available in a dizzying array of types and qualities. Its advantages include its ease of installation, price, shielding and increased durability (as compared to a balanced feedline).

Inflexible feedline, commonly called "Hard Line" is what is used in most commercial applications where the high quality, durability and low feedline loss are required. The fact that it is nearly inflexible makes it a little tougher to deal with in a typical Amateur in-

stallation. This type of feedline uses air for an insulator, with spacers that keep the center conductor in the proper place to maintain proper feedline impedance. It's not often used in home Amateur stations because of its expense (more on that later) and relative difficulty of installation. It is often used on well-installed FM voice Amateur repeaters and packet nodes.

A good compromise variation of inflexible feedline is semi-flexible feedline. This features a metal jacket that is wound, and therefore flexible to a certain extent. Instead of an air insulator, it uses a foam insulator. Therefore, it loses a little more RF energy than non-flexible air-insulator feedline. But it's also a lot easier to work with.

The last feed option for Amateur antenna systems is a waveguide. Waveguides are also a non-flexible. They are basically a tubular chamber of fractional-wavelength dimension that carries the RF waves. It is most often used in microwave and satellite work. While loss is extremely low, it must be very carefully installed or it won't work or continue work well for very long. It is only for the extremely brave Amateur.

More Feedline Fodder

Feedline is at least a very important part of any Amateur operation, even one operating in the HF spectrum. The most likely problems at that range of frequencies involve poor connections, moisture contamination of the feedline, or poor shielding, perhaps resulting in a poor SWR or TVI. Rarely is feedline loss a factor at HF. With 802.11, we're operating at microwave frequencies. Feedline loss becomes critical for us.

Jump up to VHF, particularly the 2 Meter band, and that difference begins to appear. While standard RG-8 cable will not present much of a loss at HF, it becomes unsuitable for anything but short jumpers inside the shack at VHF frequencies. Consider the feedline loss per 100 feet vs frequency; at 10 MHz, it loses .5 db. At 100 MHz, it loses 1.9 db, and at 1 GHz, it loses 8 db. That means that by the time you get to 2.4 GHz, you'd be wasting about 95% of your signal in feedline loss.

Now let's take a look at what used to be called "Poor-Man's Hardline", Belden 9913 double-shielded coax. It loses 1.4 db at 100 MHz, and 4.5 db at 1 GHz. At 2.4 GHz, you'd lose about 90% of your signal. This is a little better, but still unacceptable.

Now let's take a look at real Hardline,

7/8" in diameter. It loses a mere .36 db at 100 MHz, and only loses 1.4 db at 1 GHz. At 2.4 GHz, it loses about 2 db of RF. That means that about only 40% of your signal is lost with a 100 foot feedline run. Quite a difference from flexible coaxes.

While the advantages of hard air-insulated feedline are readily apparent, it is often impractical to install it in a standard Amateur house station. After all, it is nearly rigid 7/8" pipe, doesn't bend very well, requires special hardware and connectors, and is very expensive when purchased new. For that reason, we may want to consider semi-flexible hard line.

The most popular variation of this is LMR-400. At 100 MHz, it loses 1.2 db, at 1 GHz it comes to 4.3 db. At 2.4 GHz, you can expect to lose about 6 or 7 db. Still substantial, but one sometimes has to compromise. And don't forget, most installations will require far less feedline. If you want to upgrade to larger and better semi-flexible coaxial feedline, LMR-500 and LMR-600 are also available, with expected performance gains.

There's one more feedline consideration: jumper cables. Even LMR-400 presents a strain on the hardware that it is connected to. It makes it tough to move your computer too, because it's only semi-flexible. So, you'll want some kind of flexible jumper cable to connect to your feedline. The best all-around choice for that is LMR-240. Although it loses a lot over long runs, it loses far less than other flexible cables. And we're only using it for very short distances.


One more special note: Don't, under any circumstances, use RG-58 or RG-8 Mini - even for jumpers. It is totally unsuitable even for short jumpers.

The Connector Connection

Feedline is only going to be as effective as the connection to it. Some 802.11 cards have no option for connecting an external antenna, some don't. You may have to actually dig into the wireless card and add an antenna jack. If you do, and even if you don't, you should follow these suggestions when selecting and using connectors for 802.11 products:


- Do not go cheap, you will regret it. Some cheap connectors and adaptors, particularly 90-degree adaptors, use springs to "make bend" of the center conductor. This introduces unwanted inductance in the circuit, which detunes it. As time goes on, they develop intermittent connections. Cheap connectors don't

(Continued on page 11)



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)
Club net: Sundays 8:00 p.m. on 147.315
Robert Loomis, KB9VSQ, Secretary
108 Scarlet Ct., Reedsburg, WI 53959
YTARC Home Page: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/>



The November 3, 2004 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Club was opened at the usual starting time of 7:25 p.m., by N9UDO, Steve, President

The minutes were read from the previous meeting, and a motion by WD9JIB, Pete, was made to accept them as read and published in the BSSS. Seconded by N9PQJ, Tom. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s report was given by N9KXX, Bill, our treasurer. We have \$xxx.xx in the treasury right now with an outstanding bill of \$10.00 for the annual incorporation papers to be filed. The only other bill we will have shortly will be the flyers for the swap-fest.

Old Business:

We have a tower for sale. Rohn 25, donated by W9WSS, Art whom is moving into an adult community and will be unable to use it. It is brand new, never installed, and stored inside. WD9JIB has a couple of interested buyers that have cash in hand. It was decided that whom ever showed up first with cash, was the new owner.

OLD-OLD Business:

WD9JIB mentioned that there is a void that needs to be filled around Reedsburg area in our Packet Nodes. The discussion was intended to bring BACK to our attention that the club is trying to set up a node around the Happy Hill area, and that we need the Technician to get back to work on it again. The unnamed tech stated he would get it back out and work on it again, SOON.

N9ROY, Rick, Told the members present that the Lake Delton Lions Halloween Party was a HUGE success. He also thanked the club on their behalf for the donation, which helped finance the project. THANK YOU for your Support

Zilch Update:

N9PQJ mentioned that the October Zilch was held at the Lake Wisconsin Country Club. Around 25 people showed up and all had a GREAT time. He mentioned that they would like to try to find a Portage area restaurant to hold the December one at. A lively discussion was had and it was decided to have a local per-

son check out "Dinos" just north of McDonalds in Portage. K9KXX mentioned that it might accommodate us better if we had like 3 round tables instead of 1 long table. It would make it easier to talk to other people rather than shouting down the length of the table. The next Zilch will be on November 28, at 10:30AM. Now Dinos doesn't have a buffet, so it might be off menu. Tom will keep us informed as to the location and food type. If you, or someone you know, is not on the Zilch e-mail list, that would like to be, send Tom an e-mail at: n9pqj@arrl.net. Thanks for the GREAT job you do for this Tom!!

New Business:

KC9CVD, Bill mentioned that on May 7th 2005, the Optimist Club in the Village of Merrimac would be hosting a Professional and Amateur Fishing Tournament. There will be 3 categories: Pro, Amateur, and Family. This is a fun event to help raise needed funds for John Hopkins Hospital, for battling Childhood Cancer. He mentioned that the club might be contacted, but was unsure of our total purpose, maybe involving crowd control, communications, directions to out-of-towners, etc. He will keep us informed as the time approaches.

The first weekend of January (8th), is the Waukesha Hamfest held on Saturday. Keep this in mind, maybe get some car pools going to save fuel costs.

Christmas party was brought up. The last couple of years it has been a Brunch type of get together. WD9JIB mentioned it would be nice to have a sit-down meal. N9PQJ and N9KXX agreed with him. We need to find a place to hold it, like a Rod and Gun club, Eagles club, Elks club, etc... as they usually have cheap rental rates for their halls. N5SHF, John mentioned Reedsburg VFW hall and will report back on the catering of it, and cost. Thanks John. Our next meeting is to be held on Dec.2 at 7:00 p.m. John will be checking dates for December 4, 11, 18 and January 1, 8, 15 and 29.

It was questioned if the club wanted to stay on a rotational meeting format, or if we wanted to meet just on a particular day of the week. For example: do we want to meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month each month, or rotate Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each month

Check us out on the web at [Http://www.bssts.org](http://www.bssts.org)

like we do now. We have noticed we have more members show up when the meetings are on Tuesdays, so would this be better? Please send your thoughts and comments to our club President Steve, N9UDO at n9udo@yahoo.com.

Motion made by KC9CVD to close meeting. Second by WD9JIB. Passed. Meeting closed at 8:12 pm.

Submitted by Rick, N9ROY (secretary protem)

In Attendance:

Rick	N9ROY
Steve	N9UDO
Brad	KB9VMC
Bill	KC9CVD
Dave	KB9CSW
Pete	WD9JIB
John	N5SHF
Tom	N9PQJ
Bill	N9KXX
Ann	N9KXX-XYL
Patrick	N9KXX-1st Harmonic

The December meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 1911 local time (7:11 CST, Stevie must have invested in a better timepiece) on Thursday December 2 by our fearless leader (and official repeater monitor), President Steven Schulze. The meeting had a change of venue to a first floor meeting room in the Sauk County Court House in Baraboo Wisconsin.

1st order of Business:

Mr. Schulze requested the secretary’s report. The report was submitted by myself, YTARC Secretary (and club destroyer of the English language) as recorded by Rich N9ROY and presented by email and hard copy to the members present. Motion by Member Gurgel, KA9TBU to accept minutes as presented, seconded by Member Plouffe, N9ROY, approved by membership by voice vote, 9 yea, one nay by the club nayer.

2nd order of Business:

Mr. Schulze requested a treasurer’s report of our Treasurer, Mr. Bill (club holder of the funds), N9KXX. He reported the club treasury stands at \$xxx.xx (that would be xxx,xxx.xx in yen) and that dues are coming in.

Special New Business:

Mr. Schulze reported to the members at large that the Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) is installed and is operational at the YTARC repeater sight.

It was also reported the tower that was donated to the club has been sold and delivered and that he felt the proceeds should be used to cover some of the costs of the UPS and peripherals as previously discussed. Mr. Harrison (Vice), N9PQJ made a motion for the treasury to reimburse Mr. Schulze for fuel expense incurred delivering said tower to the purchaser. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gurgel (master of the long range HT) and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Mr. Harrison reported on the November Zilch Breakfast. It was held at Dino’s Restaurant in Portage and that since it was not a buffet everyone had a good opportunity to chat before the meal. Apparently all attending had a great time of it. Anyone interested in being informed of these monthly breakfasts via email feel free contact Tom at N9PQJ@arrl.net. Or contact me on the 147.315 repeater (lots of free time here lately) or at KB9VSQYTARC@netscape.net and I will be happy to get your info to Tom to be added to his list. This is a multi county event and all are welcome to attend.

Mr. Stein (our token 5 lander), N5SHF, reported to the members at large on the planning for the club Christmas Party. It is tentatively scheduled for January 15, 2005 at the Reedsburg VFW and will be a sit down affair with “real plates and silverware” and a cash bar. Attached to the end of these minutes you will find the information with all the informa-

Ham Implementation of 802.11 Packet Radio

(Continued from page 10)

last long, either.

- Do not use any PL-type connector (such as a PL-259). They do not present the proper impedance and often come loose. They also don't have any seals to keep out moisture.
- N-type connectors are the best bet. They also have sealing rings that help keep moisture and contaminants out of the connections.
- Do not mate silver connectors to nickel connectors. This causes an electrolytic reaction which in turn causes deposits to form on them. These are semi-conductive deposits, which cause problems.
- Properly weatherproof all connectors. Covering them with Coax-seal, then pure silicone rubber followed by self-fusing tape, with a final covering of tightly-wound electrical tape topping it off will be the best. Do not use "caulk" type silicone rubber. The curing agents used in these products often will corrode the metal on the connectors.

- Use as few connectors, adaptors and splices as possible. Every connector introduces a certain amount of loss, fewer connectors mean less loss.

Additional Information

Here are some of the sources of information I used in preparing this feature, and where you may find additional helpful information:

<http://www.hamuniverse.com> (Operated by Don, N4UJW)

<http://www.bawia.org> (Boston Area Wireless Internet Alliance)

<http://www.andrew.com> (Manufacturer of semi-flexible feedline)

<http://www.ERlink.com> (Manufacturer of rigid feedline)

And that's where we'll leave our discussion for this time.

Until next time, 73 from Andy.

Buy it! • Sell it • Trade it • Fix it

SWAPFESTS

<div><p>2004 WINNER Nicholas Luther, K9NL Oshkosh, WI.</p></div> <div><p>32nd ANNUAL MIDWINTER SWAPFEST WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN SATURDAY JANUARY , 2006</p><p><i>Both sponsored by: THE WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC. P. O. BOX 1072 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201</i></p></div>	<p><i>HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!</i> MADISON SWAPFEST Mandt Community Center <i>APRIL 17, 2005</i> 400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton WI Doors open at 8 a.m. Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890 swapfest Information Line. (608) 245-8890</p>	<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST 04 JULY 9, 2005 (Held every July) <i>American Legion Park Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</i> (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail ryatex@aol.com</p>		
<p>SEWFARS SWAPFEST HAM RADIOS • COMPUTERS • ELECTRONICS AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS</p> <p>Setup starts at 6:00 A.M. For more information, call (262) 742-4903</p>	<p>The Chicago FM Club presents RADIO EXPO 2005 September 17-18, 2005 Lake County Fairgrounds, Rts. 45 and 120 Grayslake, Illinois Free parking • Amateur Exams • Talkin 146.16/76 Info Voice mail and FAX: (708) 457-0966 http://www.chicagofmclub.org P.O. Box 56784, Harwood Heights, IL 60656-0724</p>	<p>TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS HAMFEST 2004 March 20, 2005 YOUR SPRING FAVORITE ! www.cmdline.com/tcarc/ TCARC 213 Frederick St (920) 563-6381 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 Evenings</p>		
<div><p>www.ns9rc.org</p></div> <div><p>NS9RC fest <i>formerly known as LAMARfest</i> Lake County Fairgrounds • Grayslake, Illinois Radio, Electronic, Computer Swapfest APRIL 16, 2005 Grayslake, IL</p></div>	<div><p>ARRL Publications HOTLINE Call Toll Free! 888-277-5289 e-mail: pubsales@arrl.org</p><p>Check us out on the Web: http://www.arrl.org/ • Complete Publications Catalog • Membership application and services</p></div>	<p>The Milwaukee Repeater Club presents AMATEUR RADIO FEST 2004 November , 2005</p> <p>Waukesha County Expo Center Forum Buildings For more information, see: http://www.mrc91.org e-mail mrc@mrc91.org or call (414) 526-7011</p>		
<p>Ozaukee Radio Club 23rd ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST MAY 7, 2005 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center Intersection of Highway 60 and County I Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno, 5119 W, Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222 Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club W55 N865 Cedar Ridge Drive • Cedarburg WI 53012</p>	<p>Circus City Swapfest Sponsored by the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club Saturday, August 13, 2005 • 7 am—Noon Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area</td><td>\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables</td></tr></table> <p>Steve Schulze, N9UDO • Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (606) 356-2313 • (608) 643-6908/643-6453 http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm,</p>	Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables	<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AUCTION Amateur Radio, Computers & Electronics Wed. MARCH 02, 2005, 6:00 p.m. <i>American Legion Post 434 Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</i> (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail: ryatex@aol.com</p>
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